



NEWS RELEASE

**NELSON P. COHEN
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
DISTRICT OF ALASKA**

Federal Building & U.S. Courthouse • 222 W. 7th Avenue • Room 253 • Anchorage, AK 99513-7567 • (907) 271-5071

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Thursday, August 23, 2007

#07-121

**CALIFORNIA MAN INDICTED BY FEDERAL GRAND JURY ON
SEXUAL ABUSE AND INTERSTATE TRAVEL TO ENGAGE IN SEX ACT WITH CHILD**

Anchorage, Alaska – United States Attorney Nelson P. Cohen announced today, August 23, 2007, that Danny Michael Harvey, a resident of Lancaster, California, was indicted by a federal grand jury in Anchorage on a charge of attempted aggravated sexual abuse, for attempting to travel to Alaska from California with the intent to engage in a sexual act with a six-year-old girl.

The single-count indictment named Harvey, age 46, as the sole defendant.

According to the indictment and a criminal complaint filed earlier with the court, Harvey traveled to Anchorage from his California home, and was arrested in Anchorage. Beginning On June 20, 2007, Harvey engaged in online discussions about his plans to travel to Alaska to have sex with a six-year-old girl.

Assistant United States Attorney Audrey J. Renschen, who presented the case to the grand jury, indicated that the law provides for a maximum total sentence of life in prison, a mandatory 30 year minimum term of imprisonment, and a fine of \$250,000. Under the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, the actual sentence imposed will be based upon the seriousness of the offenses and the prior criminal history, if any, of the defendant. Harvey is currently being detained pending further court proceedings.

Immigration and Customs Enforcement conducted the investigation leading to the indictment in this case.

This case is being prosecuted as part of Project Safe Childhood. In February 2006, Attorney General Alberto R. Gonzales launched Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative designed to protect children from online exploitation and abuse. Led by the United States Attorneys' Offices, Project Safe Childhood combines federal, state and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafchildhood.gov/.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. A defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial at which the government must prove guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

###